

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, March 10, 2017/Phalguna 19, 1938 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Chemicals and Fertilizers;
Communications; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;
Electronics and Information Technology; Food Processing
Industries; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs;
Railways; Textiles)

Total number of questions — 15

Solar power panels on rooftops of trains

*106. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have installed
solar panels on rooftops of some trains on
trial basis, if so, the details and the outcome
thereof;

(b) whether Railways propose to install
similar panels on roof top of other trains;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise
and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) further steps taken by Government
in this direction?

Drought in Tamil Nadu

*107. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND
FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any
proposal to declare drought in Tamil Nadu

in view of recent situation prevailing all over
the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not,
the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government of Tamil Nadu
has requested the Central Government to
release funds for tackling the drought
situation, if so, the action taken thereon?

Misuse of Wi-Fi facility at railway stations

*108. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has come
across any case of misuse of Wi-Fi facility
provided at railway stations, if so, the
details of specific cases, State-wise,
including the nature of misuse;

(b) whether the Ministry has set up any
filtering mechanism to block the usage of
illegal and obscene websites and also a way
to track users, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the number of passengers using internet service and the railway stations where this service is being provided; and

(d) the details of funds allocated and spent on the same during the last two years?

Shortage of storage capacity for foodgrains

*109. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country faces huge shortage of storage capacity as the existing godowns and warehouses have failed to keep pace with the rising production and procurement of foodgrains, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether several companies from other countries have shown interest and offered a helping hand in building foodgrains' storage capacity in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government in this regard?

Mobile telephone connections in the country

*110. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile telephone connections in the country during the last three years and in the current year;

(b) the steps taken to improve mobile communication penetration in rural, hilly and backward areas; and

(c) whether there is any plan to make mobile phones affordable in rural areas by bringing down the cost and tariff, if so, the details thereof?

Quality of food service in Ahmedabad-Delhi Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express train

*111. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received complaints regarding bad quality food service by private catering agency in Ahmedabad-Delhi Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express train, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken by Railways against the food contractor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the food contractor on this route is blacklisted; and

(d) if so, the authority which has taken the decision to give a further contract to him?

Implementation of food security schemes

*112. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 per cent Indians do not get full meal daily;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the food security efforts made by Government have not achieved the desired results; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by Government to review the implementation of food security schemes?

Access to cheaper generic medicines

*113. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by Government to improve people's access to medicines at cheaper rates through the Generic Medicine Campaign;

(b) whether only PSUs like IDPL, RDPL, HAL, BCPL, KPCL are the participating organisations to fulfil the key objectives of the Government to ensure availability of quality medicines at affordable prices to all;

(c) the details of such private sector pharmaceutical companies manufacturing generic medicines; and

(d) how the supply of quality medicines at affordable prices to all through Government sponsored Jan Aushadhi Kendras will be continued in view of privatization or closing down of PSUs?

Provision of cyber services through CSCs in Gram Panchayats

†*114. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Common Service Centres (CSCs) have been established in Gram Panchayats by Central Government to provide cyber services, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the State-wise details of number of CSCs at present; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for establishment of CSCs in all the

Gram Panchayats of the country, if so, the details thereof?

Reasonable price for farmers' agricultural produces

†*115. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the commodity-wise selling price of foodgrains, pulses and vegetables offered to farmers at present and to what extent, the prices are remunerative to them;

(b) the amount of grant-in-aid provided to farmers for warehousing and cold storage of agricultural products for ensuring reasonable prices, and what is the present method of sanctioning and duration; and

(c) the number of existing godowns and cold storages in the country, State-wise, with reference to above and the number thereof required, and what is the remedy to meet the scarcity?

Train ambulance service

*116. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any service in Railways for transportation of serious patients in trains with attendant facilities as provided in an ambulance;

(b) if so, the structure of costs charged for transportation of patients and how does it compare with transportation through road and air; and

(c) whether any train ambulance service is being run or contemplated for transportation of patients from Rajasthan to neighbouring States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Delhi, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Security breaches of UIDAI database

*117. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the protocol in place, as a response mechanism, in case of hacking or identity theft in view of the fact that Aadhaar/UID number is being used for multiple authentications;

(b) the details of security protocol and encryption being used to secure the database and whether it is at par with the current industry standards;

(c) whether any security breaches or intrusion attempts of the UIDAI database have been recorded so far; and

(d) if so, the details of each such breach, the number of identities affected and the action taken thereon?

Railway link between Konark and Paradip

*118. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 225 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th August, 2016 and state:

(a) the present status of the proposals on the representations received by Railways for construction of a railway link between Konark and Paradip; and

(b) by when Haridaspur-Paradip broad gauge rail link project would be completed, the status thereof?

Digital connectivity between India and ASEAN countries

*119. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the various initiatives taken by Government to increase the digital connectivity between India and the ASEAN countries; and

(b) whether any agreements or MoUs have been signed between India and any ASEAN country in the recent past in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of PMFBY in rural areas

†*120. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government for extensive promotion and propagation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), particularly keeping in mind the fact that almost 70 per cent farmers live in villages wherein a big section has not been properly educated;

(b) the Department that has been entrusted with the responsibility of promotion, propagation and implementation of this scheme in rural areas; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain whether this scheme is yielding desired results or not, if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 4th March, 2017

Phalguna 13, 1938 (Saka)

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	:	107, 115, 120,
Chemicals and Fertilizers	:	113,
Communications	:	110, 119,
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	109, 112,
Electronics and Information Technology	:	114, 117,
Food Processing Industries	:	—
Law and Justice	:	—
Parliamentary Affairs	:	—
Railways	:	106, 108, 111, 116, 118.
Textiles	:	—